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If our friends who favor us with manuscripts and illustrations for publication wish to have rejected articles returned, they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

Richmond used to have a shipyard in the business center of the city; a railroad runs up the river, and now Roanoke has organized a Coast Artillery company. In keeping with the general scheme, Norfolk might form a mountain battery, and Chincoteague Island a troop of cavalry.

Up to the Administrative Board

CAPTAIN CARLTON MCCARTHY has performed a public service in bringing to the surface those underground rumors that have created so unsavory an odor in the neighborhood of the City Hall. He deserves thanks and congratulations. That the award of contracts by the Administrative Board should be surrounded by an atmosphere of suspicion, distrust and accusations of improper influence is abominable. It is to be hoped the investigation the board unquestionably should conduct will dissipate this miasmic cloud once for all.

If there is any one connected with the city government who is open to bribery, the public should know of it. If there is no such person, those who seek city contracts should be made so to understand, so that they can save some of the cash they have been wasting and use it in giving Richmond value received.

The strong probability is that no city official or employee has accepted a single dirty dollar. There never was a city without a few professional grafters who professed to be able to exert improper influence on the accredited distributors of municipal favors. The old graft days have vanished, but their influence lingers, and contractors notoriously are "easy marks." To use the language of the streets, they "fall for a touch" with the utmost neatness, celerity and dispatch.

What wonder that some of them come to believe that the road to public contracts should be oiled?

If the Central Construction and Supply Company provided a \$1,000 slush fund with which to expedite business, as Captain McCarthy charges, no sympathy need be wasted on that corporation. Some part of the fund seems to have gone astray, but wherever it landed it served a better purpose than its intended purpose. With this particular story, however, other stories of like character are making the rounds. One of them is mentioned in the statement made by Captain McCarthy.

It is the duty of the Administrative Board to investigate. Whether a crime has been committed depends, probably, on whether any one connected with the city government has participated in the division of the several "slush funds," but whether criminal or not there can be no question of the gross impropriety of such expenditures by contractors. The disclosures already made place the whole board on the defensive. It must vindicate to the public the manner of its discharge of a public trust. It must clear its skirts of all suspicion. The public is not going to believe, without much better evidence than that presented, that any member of the board, or any one connected with its office or the departments it controls, is guilty of impropriety, but no room should be left for the faintest question.

It practices have been merely wrongful, without being criminal in the legal sense, the board will know how to punish. If crimes have been committed, the grand jury then may act.

"Irish Parties Expected to Agree," remarks a headline. This shows that headline artists are among the most ingenious of created beings. The Irish parties will agree about the same time that oil and water begin to mix.

Britain's Defeat at Sea

No amount of explanation the British admiralty can offer will suffice to dim the luster of the German naval exploit in the North Sea. In her own element, the Britannia which has boasted proudly that she ruled the waves, has suffered a crushing defeat. Three battle cruisers, two armored cruisers and five destroyers are included in the toll of the lost, while other vessels suffered serious injuries. The German casualties by comparison appear to have been trivial.

On land Britain in this war has been a failure; it has been only at sea that she has demonstrated her ancient prowess. Now she loses her sea laurels. While the strength of the opposing fleets is difficult to determine with exactness, in view of the meager and conflicting reports, it does not appear that the British were outnumbered or outgunned. They were simply outwitted.

The greatest naval battle in history, if the cost of the destroyed vessels be taken as the criterion, has gone against the ruler of the Seven Seas. The British may still achieve, and that swiftly, a notable triumph, if it is to be a triumph of the spirit rather than of the sword.

Germany has virtually put a stop to the use of motor cars, and England is drastically regulating their use. We'd like to see the German and British methods applied to a good many drivers here.

If Carranza's pen isn't much mightier than his sword, President Wilson will pay no more attention to his note than Villa does to his army.

We know all about meat, butter and egg conditions in Germany; but what about the hop crop? We've got five months yet.

And probably some of those men who paid for the railway banquet had hopes of being called on to make a few remarks.

A good line to keep in type: It was said that the automobile was moving slowly when the accident occurred.

## SEEN ON THE SIDE

**A Republican's Lament.**

I never cared for Theodore;  
He is too fond of noise and gore  
To suit my placid taste;  
I simply cannot vote for him,  
So Theodore I'll try to trim.  
And do the job in haste.

I have no love for Justice Hughes;  
His frigid ways I can't excuse,  
No matter how I try;  
So when his name is shouted out,  
I'll pass it up without a doubt,  
And wink the other eye.

I'm not for Cummins or for Root;  
For Weeks I do not give a hoot;  
I'm none too strong for Ford,  
And as for Fairbanks, lank and tall,  
His chances are so very small  
That when he talks I'm bored.

It's so also with "Battling Bob";  
I've always thought he was a slob—  
And Burton makes me ill;  
In fact, the more I call the roll  
The more I want to seek my hole—  
Each candidate's a pill.

Bill Borah gives me quite a pain,  
While Hadley ne'er my vote shall gain,  
For Smith I shall not fail;  
The O. P. has got my goat—  
I'll quit the fold and cast my vote  
For Wilson, after all.

**The Fatalist Says:**

When a man cannot trust any one else, it is usually because he cannot trust himself.

**Shakespeare Day by Day.**

For girls too often seen: "Be somewhat scantier of your maiden presence."—Hamlet, I. 3.

For the Republicans, all at odds: "They do no more adhere and keep pace together than the hundredth psalm to the tune of 'Green Sleeves.'"—Merry Wives of Windsor, II. 1.

For the unhappy lover:

"To be in love, where scorn is bought with groans;  
Coy looks, with heart-sore sighs."

For the cynic:

"When rich villains have need of poor ones,  
Poor ones may make what price they will."

—Measure for Measure, III. 3.

For the scholar:

"Study is like the heaven's glorious sun  
That will not be deep-searched with saucy looks."

—Love's Labor's Lost, I. 1.

**Quite Easy.**

Grubbs—Does Miss Sweetheart expect to be seen at the seashore this summer?

Stubbs—I don't know whether she intends to go, but if she does and wears the same bathing suit she wore last summer, she will unquestionably be seen.

**Living Proof.**

"Why is young Howler so fond of making an insanity defense for his clients?"

"Because his own appearance in the case always strengthens the argument."

**Getting Back at the Old Man.**

She—if you are so opposed to extravagance, why did you not say something about it to me before we were married?

He—Well, to be perfectly frank with you, I never did like your father.

**According to the Office Philosopher.**

Say what you will of the prohibition law, the number of loads carried in Richmond probably will be reduced after next November.

**Overlooked His One Best Bet.**

"The bride looked perfectly lovely."

"And as for the groom—I suppose he also ran."

"No, he didn't. That was where the poor fellow made his mistake."

**To-Day's Best Hand-Picked Joke.**

"I've brought back those eggs you gave me this morning," said the new bride, as she began to take the articles in question from her basket.

"They're duck eggs."

"Duck eggs?" sneered the grocery boss.

"You're mistaken, ma'am. I don't never sell no duck eggs."

"But I tested them," triumphed the matrimonial novice. "I dropped them into water and they floated."—Judge.

**Bad Business.**

You may break, you may shatter  
A ten-dollar bill;  
But live to regret it,  
You certainly will.

**Health Talks, by Dr. Wm. Brady**

**When Lying Is Right.**

Some of our most esteemed correspondents intimate in no equivocal words that the family doctor is a liar. This is quite true. A doctor would be a sorry failure, a hated citizen and a disgrace to his profession if he were not ready and able to lie whenever occasion demands.

It is as a liar that the doctor does some of the noblest deeds in his daily routine. He should lie and he must lie to save the honor of a family. He must lie to defend the reputation of a woman. He must lie to preserve the bond of man and wife. A doctor who is not willing to lie when necessary for these purposes isn't worth a penny.

You can't tell the doctor that a lie is always bad—you can't do that because your house is of glass. Would you have the doctor speak the truth and only the truth, regardless of where the chips may fall? Then you would make him a weak and ineffectual peddler of scandal and a despicable extortionist.

Let us imagine a case. A mother brings her baby to the doctor. Examination shows that the baby is suffering with a hereditary disease. The doctor knows that the sin of the father is visited upon the child. The mother asks what is the matter with the baby. Shall the doctor tell the truth and break up the home? Come, you moralists, what would you have him do?

Dr. Cabot wrote that "the doctor's lie is always detected." Cabot meant the diagnostic subterfuge. It is impossible to imagine a physician of attainments telling the cruel truth to the mother of a tainted baby. It is impossible to imagine any respectable doctor doing so. There are lies and lies. There are good lies and bad lies. A good lie, we think, is O. K. by Heaven. The doctor's lie is a thing that comes out of a man's conscience, pure, honorable, admirable from any standpoint. A good doctor must be a good liar, and everybody knows it. A doctor is loved for the lies he tells, and as likely as not, condemned for his diagnostic honesty. However, he can get along in spite of the disapprobation of those who doubt the truth, for he enjoys the confidence and respect of so many, many more whose happiness depends upon his loyalty as a liar.

**How to Prevent the Spread of Measles and All Other Contagious Diseases.**

Please tell us how to prevent the spread of measles and German measles, scarlet fever, and other contagious diseases.

Answer—the best advice we can give is that sent out to the homes by the famous Health Superintendent of Providence, R. I. Pin this in your bulletin board and read it over whenever you have sickness in the house.

"Keep away from the sick person as much as possible. If you do have to touch the patient, wash your hands at once."

"Even with the best care you are liable to get the germs in your nose and throat, although you may not be sick yourself."

"Then, if you are not very careful, you may

give the disease to others. (This means that you may be a germ carrier.)"

"Take care of your spit. Don't spit on the floor, or sidewalk, or any such place. Spit in a cloth and burn them, or in paper which can be burned before the sputum has time to dry."

"Don't drink out of a glass or cup that some one else is likely to use. Use only your own glass."

"Don't put money, transfer tickets, pencils, pins, etc., into your mouth."

"Don't borrow or lend a pencil, pipe or anything else that may be put into the mouth."

"Keep your fingers out of your mouth."

"Don't kiss the children."

"The offender you wash your face and hands, the less likely you are to carry the disease."

"Always wash your hands the last thing before leaving the sick room or the house."

"Most important of all, always wash your hands before you eat. This latter injunction is not sufficiently impressed upon children."

## News of Fifty Years Ago

(From the Richmond Dispatch, June 3, 1866.)

Rev. J. B. Jeter, D. D., pastor of the Grace Street Baptist Church, has gone to Missouri on a visit to relatives. His pulpit will be filled by his son, Rev. Harvey Jeter, a brilliant young minister from Bedford, Va. Work on the Richmond and Danville Railroad bridge across James River is being pushed rapidly, and the engineers announce it will be finished within a month, and then the last of the bridges destroyed on Evacuation Day will be in place again.

The Richmond post-office and all the offices in the United States custom-house were closed yesterday in honor of the late General Winfield Scott.

Here in Richmond we are getting acquainted with a kind of modern astronomy—a freedman looking about in the daytime to ascertain what he can steal when night comes on.

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